

## EXHIBIT F

# QUALIFIED COURT REPORTERS, INC.

Smith v Co/Op Optical

Deposition of  
Marcellus Stepp

February 25, 2011

Qualified Court Reporters, Inc.  
21909 Chase Drive  
Novi, Michigan 48375  
(248 ) 344-4364

Page 29

Page 31

1 defamnation of character. That's my general  
2 understanding.

3 Q. Okay. Do you know -- and Jackee Smith was  
4 terminated as CEO; correct

5 A. What?

6 Q. Jackee Smith was terminated as Co/Op's CEO?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Do you remember when that was?

9 A. On March 19th.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. March 19th, 2010.

12 Q. And how was she terminated?

13 A. How? By a vote of the board of directors.

14 Q. Okay. Do you remember what the vote was?

15 A. The vote -- the legal vote was five to three.

16 Q. Okay. Why do you say legal vote?

17 A. Well, there was another vote that did not normally  
18 count, which was Jackee's vote. She shouldn't  
19 have voted. And that would have been five to  
20 four, but the legal vote is five to three.

21 Q. Okay. Why shouldn't Jackee's vote have been  
22 counted?

23 A. They have a policy that if you are a subject of  
24 whatever is being considered and a vote is  
25 required, you're normally excused from the meeting

Page 30

1 and you don't participate in the decision of that  
2 particular situation. She was the subject of  
3 discharge, her discharge and she should not have  
4 been in the meeting and particularly in the  
5 voting.

6 Q. Even, though she was on the board?

7 A. She was on the board, but she was the subject of  
8 the discussion of the issue involved.

9 Q. Okay. What's this policy that you're talking  
10 about? Is there a name for it?

11 A. What?

12 Q. Is there a title for this policy?

13 A. Other than -- I don't know. Other than conflict  
14 of interest is the general term used for  
15 situations of that sort.

16 Q. Is there an actual policy that you can point me to  
17 that says Jackee could not be in that meeting  
18 because she was being voted on?

19 A. Is there a policy?

20 Q. Yeah.

21 A. Yes. There's a policy and practice. Universal.

22 Q. Okay. Is there a written policy at Co/Op that  
23 states that?

24 A. I don't know if there's a written one or not.

25 Q. So why do you think there's a policy? What makes

Page 30

Page 32

1 you say there's a policy?

2 A. Custom and practice.

3 Q. Okay. Who was the CEO before Jackee?

4 A. Pat Korth.

5 Q. Okay. Was Pat Korth ever allowed to vote on  
6 himself, do you know?

7 A. No, not after we changed the constitution.

8 Q. When did that change?

9 A. When did that happen?

10 Q. Yeah.

11 A. I'm going -- well, I shouldn't guess. I don't  
12 know. I don't recall.

13 Q. Okay. Was it after Jackee became CEO?

14 A. What? What are you --

15 Q. You said the constitution was changed.

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. Was that changed after Jackee became CEO of  
18 Co/Op?

19 A. No. Before.

20 Q. Before. Was it while Pat Korth was still the  
21 CEO?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Okay. How did you vote with respect to Jackee  
24 Smith?

25 A. I voted in the affirmative.

1 Q. For her discharge?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Why did you make that vote?

4 A. Because I was convinced that the services she had  
5 rendered was completely exhausted in terms of  
6 being effective.

7 Q. Okay. What made you think that?

8 A. Based on a number of items and occurrences that I  
9 experienced and that I saw.

10 Q. Okay. Can you give me any examples at all?

11 A. Yeah. I sure can.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. There are documents, I can't think of the name of  
14 it, where it was recommended that Co/Op find a  
15 merger, Co/Op to be sold. This came from the  
16 state, came from OFIR. We should find an  
17 investor, a number of suggestions, because the  
18 management had failed to be an effective  
19 management of the company, as well as the board  
20 had failed for its lack of oversight obligation,  
21 fiduciary obligations.

22 In addition to that, one thing that  
23 happened that really sealed my conclusion that I  
24 don't think she will be effective any longer,  
25 there were seven employees selected by her or

8 (Pages 29 to 32)

Marcellus Stepp

February 25, 2011

Page 33

Page 35

1 someone else to meet with the board of directors  
 2 to air their complaints. I was, there again,  
 3 asked by the chairman of the board to chair that  
 4 committee. So we had the investigating committee  
 5 still alive, so the personnel that was on the  
 6 investigating committee became the committee to  
 7 listen to those employees, namely Blair McGowan  
 8 and Bernie Adams. Those seven employees came and  
 9 when they came to talk about their complaints,  
 10 they were leveled against the CEO, Jackee Smith,  
 11 all but one and they submitted their complaints in  
 12 writing. It's a matter of history.

13 When they came, I made sure that they  
 14 clearly understood that what you say here is not a  
 15 secret and they came one at a time, not all seven  
 16 at one time and what you will say will be  
 17 recorded, we had the secretary there to record it  
 18 and you may be confronted with this later on.  
 19 They all agreed that they would speak freely and  
 20 that if we wanted to circulate what they said  
 21 elsewhere later, it's fine with them, so that's  
 22 how we proceeded. Several of them came with  
 23 written statements and their complaints against  
 24 the management of the company. I was impressed to  
 25 the extent that if these employees would take the

1 Q. Let me stop you for a second. Is this different  
 2 from the first reason you gave me concerning  
 3 OFIR?  
 4 A. You said is it different?  
 5 Q. Yeah. The first reason you gave me was you said  
 6 OFIR thought Co/Op should be sold because of  
 7 mismanagement of the company?  
 8 A. It's different. Yes.  
 9 Q. That's different?  
 10 A. Yeah.  
 11 Q. Do you know when that happened?  
 12 A. I can't think of this guy's name. Gerber, not  
 13 Gerber. You saw it in writing.  
 14 Q. Okay.  
 15 A. We've got memos to that.  
 16 Q. Do you know when?  
 17 A. What?  
 18 Q. Do you know when that was communicated to Co/Op?  
 19 A. It was in December sometime of '09.  
 20 Q. Okay. And this meeting that you're just talking  
 21 about --  
 22 A. It's the one in Lansing.  
 23 Q. Yeah. What's --  
 24 A. With Ken Ross.  
 25 Q. What's the date of that?

Page 34

Page 36

1 time to write down what their complaints are and  
 2 how they think the negative aspect of the  
 3 management is hurting the company, that this is a  
 4 very serious matter and so that's one thing that  
 5 chalked up a number of reasons that I thought that  
 6 Jackee had served her time.

7 I was on the committee to go to Lansing to  
 8 talk to the superintendent.

9 Q. Is this a new reason?  
 10 A. This is a new meeting. New reason?  
 11 Q. Yeah.  
 12 A. Additional reason that I'm giving you now.  
 13 Q. Okay. Okay.  
 14 A. Okay. The additional reason dealt with my meeting  
 15 with the commissioner of OFIR. They said to us  
 16 very clearly that our management has failed this  
 17 company and they said the board has failed this  
 18 company and we had quite a discussion and Ken  
 19 Ross, the chairman of the commission said we're  
 20 coming down to your meeting -- to your building to  
 21 tell your whole board that they have failed to  
 22 serve this company well and that the management  
 23 has failed to serve this company well. They came  
 24 down and they said that very clearly. There are  
 25 other --

1 A. Sir --  
 2 Q. Approximately.  
 3 A. Yeah. I'll be eighty-nine my next birthday. If I  
 4 can remember dates like that, I'll be sitting on  
 5 the side of the table where you are.  
 6 Q. Was it after December 2009?  
 7 A. What is the question?  
 8 Q. The meeting that you had with Ken Ross --  
 9 A. Yeah.  
 10 Q. -- was this after December 2009?  
 11 A. I don't know. I don't recall.  
 12 Q. Can you put any kind of general time frame on  
 13 it?  
 14 A. What?  
 15 Q. Can you put any kind of general time frame on  
 16 it at all?  
 17 MS. CAULEY: Objection, foundation.  
 18 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 19 Q. Was it 2010?  
 20 A. 2010? Well, I'm not supposed to guess.  
 21 MS. CAULEY: Well, don't guess.  
 22 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 23 Q. I don't want you to guess.  
 24 MS. CAULEY: If anything he says reminds  
 25 you or helps your memory --

9 (Pages 33 to 36)

Page 53

1 A. Ray himself.  
 2 Q. Okay. Do you know whether or not that  
 3 transaction, the check -- I'm sorry. Let me back  
 4 up. Do you know whether or not that compensation  
 5 was brought before the board to Ray Murphy?  
 6 A. The Ray Murphy thing?  
 7 Q. Yeah.  
 8 A. I don't remember.  
 9 Q. Okay. Do you know of any other board members that  
 10 received compensation other than Ray Murphy?  
 11 A. I don't know for sure. No.  
 12 Q. Okay. And when I say compensation, I'm --  
 13 A. Yeah.  
 14 Q. -- asking about bringing in business and getting  
 15 compensation.  
 16 A. Right. I understand.  
 17 Q. Okay. Did Co/Op employees get bonuses?  
 18 A. Not now. They have in the past.  
 19 Q. Okay. And how were those bonuses determined, do  
 20 you know?  
 21 A. Well, it was determined by the CEO, those that I  
 22 know.  
 23 Q. Okay. Was there a procedure that would take place  
 24 for the bonuses? Would she submit something to  
 25 the board and say please approve?

Page 55

1 was supervising the company?  
 2 A. I'm not sure. May have been part of the  
 3 discussion, but I'm not sure.  
 4 Q. Okay. Do you know -- okay. OFIR is supervising  
 5 Co/Op; correct? Co/Op is under OFIR's  
 6 supervision; correct?  
 7 A. Is that the right word, supervision?  
 8 Q. I think. --  
 9 A. I know they're on surveillance.  
 10 Q. Okay. Fair enough.  
 11 A. Okay.  
 12 Q. Do you know how long Co/Op has been under OFIR's  
 13 surveillance?  
 14 A. I don't know how long.  
 15 Q. Okay. More than a couple years?  
 16 A. More than a couple of years? About a couple of  
 17 years that I know of.  
 18 (Marked exhibit seventy-eight.)  
 19 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 20 Q. Okay. I'll show you what's been marked as exhibit  
 21 seventy-eight. This is a salary and compensation  
 22 committee meeting. These are the minutes, it  
 23 appears, from September 16th, 2009. Take all the  
 24 time you need. Okay. I'll just note that it  
 25 lists on the top that you were a committee member

Page 54

1 A. Well, the CEO makes a determination how much the  
 2 bonus would be and so forth and then it is  
 3 presented to -- it has been presented to the board  
 4 for ratification. That's been the procedure.  
 5 Q. Okay. Do you recall any controversy or disputes  
 6 about Jackee submitting a bonus recommendation in  
 7 late 2009?  
 8 A. Repeat that.  
 9 Q. Yeah. Do you remember any issues or disputes with  
 10 Jackee submitting bonus recommendations in late  
 11 2009?  
 12 A. Yeah. If I understand the occasion you're talking  
 13 to -- talking about. Was there a dispute?  
 14 Q. Yeah. Was there like any controversy or issue or  
 15 dispute about --  
 16 A. Yes.  
 17 Q. -- those bonuses? Can you tell me about that?  
 18 A. Jackee wanted to give bonuses to the executive  
 19 staff and at the same time the employees had been  
 20 taking a cut in pay and there was opposition to  
 21 give bonuses to a certain number of employees  
 22 while other's pay was being reduced, so she  
 23 brought it to the board and the board rejected  
 24 that.  
 25 Q. Did it have anything to do with the fact that OFIR

Page 56

1 that was present at this meeting. Do you recall  
 2 attending this meeting, by chance?  
 3 A. Yeah.  
 4 Q. You do? Okay. On the second page, this paragraph  
 5 right here, it says that bonuses went out to these  
 6 people, and I think it's referring to the staff  
 7 that it talks about above, at the end of 2008 in  
 8 amounts up to thirty-five hundred. Do you recall  
 9 bonuses being paid to employees in 2008?  
 10 A. I don't recall.  
 11 Q. Okay. Do you have any reason to dispute that  
 12 bonuses --  
 13 A. I don't dispute it. I just don't recall.  
 14 Q. Okay. On the first page, towards the bottom, it's  
 15 showing the executive staff and it's showing what  
 16 appears to be pay cuts and other cuts. Do you see  
 17 that?  
 18 A. Yes. I see that.  
 19 Q. Okay. So do you have any knowledge of whether or  
 20 not those cuts were actually made, the pay cuts?  
 21 A. I've got to assume they were.  
 22 Q. Okay. So even though Co/Op was cutting people's  
 23 pay and laying off people, in 2008 it still paid  
 24 bonuses out to its employees; right?  
 25 MS. CAULEY: Objection, form,

14 (Pages 53 to 56)

Marcellus Stepp

February 25, 2011

		Page 77	Page 79		
1	Q.	Uh-huh.	1	A.	How what?
2	A.	I'm not too sure about that.	2	Q.	How was he used, how were his services used?
3	Q.	Why not?	3	A.	He worked for the chairman, I mean for the CEO. I
4	A.	Well, let me tell you why. During the -- I was	4	had no dealings with him as such other than he	
5	called to her office in which she was talking to	5	worked on by-laws. I was on the by-law		
6	Ray Murphy about her going on a sick leave. When	6	committee.		
7	we got there, after a lot of discussion, she said,	7	Q.	Okay.	
8	well, I'm going to go, but I got to fire Ted	8	A.	But he worked directly for the CEO.	
9	first. Ray Murphy and I said don't fire Ted and	9	Q.	Did he have any involvement with the board at	
10	when you come back from being off, to get some	10	all?		
11	rest, sick, we'll take care of it then. Ray	11	A.	No more than giving reports and working on the	
12	Murphy and I leave the building. Within five	12	by-laws with the board committee.		
13	minutes I got a call that she had fired Ted, so I	13	Q.	Okay. And he reported to the CEO; right?	
14	called Jackee and I said I thought we agreed you	14	A.	What?	
15	wouldn't fire Ted until you got back. Well, I	15	Q.	He reported to the CEO?	
16	didn't understand that to be that way and I just	16	A.	Yes.	
17	think Jackee wanted to fire Ted and she lied to me	17	Q.	Okay. Did the CEO need to get permission from the	
18	and Ray that she would not do -- would not fire	18	board to -- I'll withdraw that question. Are you		
19	the man, but she did, so the point is that	19	familiar with the letter that Mr. Broder submitted		
20	impinged on her trustworthiness in my judgment.	20	to the board in December of 2009?		
21	Q.	Okay. Anything else?	21	A.	Andy Broder?
22	A.	What?	22	Q.	Yeah.
23	Q.	Anything else?	23	A.	Is that the letter? Because I'm sure he submitted
24	A.	I can't think of anything else right now.	24	many letters.	
25	Q.	Okay. So you think she lied to you regarding	25	Q.	The letter? Well, I'll show you the letter I'm
		Page 78	Page 80		
1		firing Ted?	1		talking about and you can tell me if this is the
2	A.	That's right.	2		letter. Exhibit thirty-four.
3	Q.	Okay. When was that conversation?	3	A.	Yeah. I never read all of it, but I'm familiar
4	A.	When was it?	4		with this. Is the one that has -- yeah.
5	Q.	Yeah.	5	Q.	You can hang on --
6	A.	I don't recall the date.	6	A.	Oh.
7	Q.	Do you recall the month?	7	Q.	-- to that for just a second. You said you
8	A.	A month ago?	8		never -- I'm sorry. You've never read all of this
9	Q.	No. I'm sorry. Do you recall the month --	9		letter?
10	A.	Oh.	10	A.	No. No.
11	Q.	-- that that conversation took place?	11	Q.	Okay.
12	A.	No.	12	A.	See, I was never given this letter. I found it on
13	Q.	Do you recall the year?	13		the table. There was a stack of them and I picked
14	A.	Wait. Wait. No. I'd have to guess. No. I	14		one up. That's how I happened to get one.
15	don't recall the month.	15	Q.	What table did you pick them up from?	
16	Q.	Okay. Do you recall the year?	16	A.	On the board room table.
17	A.	Year?	17	Q.	Okay. During a board meeting?
18	Q.	Yeah.	18	A.	Yeah. Either during or after the board meeting.
19	A.	2010.	19	Q.	Well --
20	Q.	Okay. Who's Andy Broder?	20	A.	That's when I discovered the letter.
21	A.	Who is Andy Broder?	21	Q.	Was anybody else in the room when you found it?
22	Q.	Uh-huh.	22	A.	The whole board.
23	A.	He's the former counsel -- general counsel for the	23	Q.	Okay. What did you do with the letter?
24	company.	24	A.	What did I do with it?	
25	Q.	Okay. And how is he used by Co/Op generally?	25	Q.	Yeah.

1 A. I kept it.  
 2 Q. Okay. But you didn't read it?  
 3 A. What?  
 4 Q. But you didn't read it?  
 5 A. No. I scanned it, but I was more concerned about  
 6 the executive summary, so I thought maybe this  
 7 summary would -- does exactly -- it summarizes the  
 8 letter. I don't know.  
 9 Q. Okay.  
 10 A. But I did scan some of the paragraphs.  
 11 Q. Do you know how this letter came to be?  
 12 A. No.  
 13 Q. Okay. What do you think about this letter?  
 14 A. What do I think about it?  
 15 Q. Yes.  
 16 MS. CAULEY: Objection, form of the  
 17 question.  
 18 THE WITNESS: I haven't even read it  
 19 all.  
 20 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 21 Q. Okay. Do you have any opinions about it or  
 22 anything?  
 23 MS. CAULEY: Objection.  
 24 THE WITNESS: No.  
 25 MS. CAULEY: Form of the question.

1 A. this letter?  
 2 Q. Say that again.  
 3 Q. Was one of the functions of that committee to  
 4 investigate the allegations --  
 5 A. No.  
 6 Q. -- that were made in this letter?  
 7 A. No. It had no, none --  
 8 Q. Okay. Was there a committee set up to investigate  
 9 the allegations that were made in this letter?  
 10 A. Set up to investigate this letter?  
 11 Q. Uh-huh. Not investigate the letter, investigate  
 12 the allegations that were contained in the letter.  
 13 A. Oh, no. No.  
 14 Q. Do you know -- do you have any knowledge about who  
 15 directed Andy Broder to write this letter?  
 16 MS. CAULEY: Objection, assumes facts not  
 17 in evidence, form.  
 18 THE WITNESS: No. I don't really know.  
 19 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 20 Q. Okay. Did you ever ask anybody?  
 21 A. No.  
 22 Q. Do you know whether anybody outside of the CEO  
 23 would have authority to direct Andy Broder to  
 24 write this letter?  
 25 MS. CAULEY: Objection, assumes facts --

1 THE WITNESS: I have no opinion.  
 2 MS. CAULEY: Calls for a narrative. Go  
 3 ahead.  
 4 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 5 Q. When was the investigative committee set up?  
 6 A. When was it set up?  
 7 Q. Yeah.  
 8 MS. CAULEY: Asked and answered. Lack  
 9 of foundation. Are you going to let him read his  
 10 testimony from before when he answered the  
 11 question?  
 12 MR. YOUNG: He can.  
 13 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 14 Q. Was it before or after this letter, before or  
 15 after December 8th, 2009?  
 16 A. Oh, I think that was before, before the letter.  
 17 Q. Okay.  
 18 A. I think. Let me -- wait a minute. Wait. I don't  
 19 recall exactly, the answer to your question,  
 20 before or after 2009.  
 21 Q. Okay. And you were on that investigative  
 22 committee though; right?  
 23 A. Yes.  
 24 Q. Okay. Was one of the functions of that committee  
 25 to investigate the allegations that were made in

1 THE WITNESS: Well, you've got board  
 2 members who could do it, I guess.  
 3 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 4 Q. Particular board members or just any board  
 5 member?  
 6 A. Well, all the board members have equal  
 7 authority.  
 8 Q. Okay. So you're saying in general just the  
 9 board?  
 10 A. Yeah.  
 11 Q. Okay. Do you know if any board members directed  
 12 Andy Broder to write this letter?  
 13 A. I don't know.  
 14 Q. Was this letter ever brought to the attention of  
 15 the board at a board meeting?  
 16 A. Not that I recall.  
 17 Q. Are you aware of any allegations that Jackee Smith  
 18 misappropriated funds with a company credit  
 19 card?  
 20 A. Misappropriated funds? Yeah. She was one of the  
 21 worst offenders of abusing the credit card  
 22 policy.  
 23 Q. How do you know that?  
 24 A. Because the investigative committee -- it was  
 25 revealed from our investigation.

Page 133

1 A. What?  
 2 Q. Did he tell her to take the documents back to HR?  
 3 A. I don't recall him saying that.  
 4 Q. Okay. Can you tell me anything specifically that  
 5 he said?  
 6 A. Did he tell me anything?  
 7 Q. No. Can you tell me anything that Ray Murphy said  
 8 specifically?  
 9 A. Oh. No. None other than agreeing with me she  
 10 ought to take some time off because of her  
 11 health --  
 12 Q. Okay.  
 13 A. -- called for it. And he said her doctor's  
 14 telling her to do that and he said to her, you  
 15 know, you got to follow your doctor's orders.  
 16 Same thing I told her.  
 17 Q. Did you ever talk to anybody from the HR  
 18 department?  
 19 A. Me?  
 20 Q. Yeah.  
 21 A. No.  
 22 Q. I'm sorry. I didn't quite finish the question.  
 23 Did you ever talk to anybody from the HR  
 24 department about Jackee Smith?  
 25 A. No.

Page 135

1 A. That day? I don't know.  
 2 Q. Okay. Do you know the day that she actually went  
 3 on medical leave?  
 4 A. No.  
 5 Q. Do you know if she actually took medical leave?  
 6 A. I don't know. I just assumed she went on regular  
 7 sick leave. Yeah.  
 8 Q. How did you know that?  
 9 A. Because she said that's what she would be doing.  
 10 Q. Okay. And then she was gone and you just  
 11 assumed -- I don't want to use --  
 12 A. I assumed that's what she's doing. Yeah.  
 13 Q. Okay. I don't know if I asked you this or not.  
 14 Did you ever -- did you ask Jackee if anybody else  
 15 had seen that paperwork?  
 16 A. No.  
 17 Q. Did Ray ask her that?  
 18 A. I don't know.  
 19 Q. Did you understand that Jackee was entitled to  
 20 take a medical leave from Co/Op?  
 21 A. Do I understand she was entitled?  
 22 Q. Yeah.  
 23 A. Yeah. I just assumed she had been there long  
 24 enough to qualify for a medical leave.  
 25 Q. Okay.

Page 134

1 Q. Okay. Did you ever talk to any employees at Co/Op  
 2 about Jackee's request for medical leave?  
 3 A. Co/Op employees?  
 4 Q. Yes.  
 5 A. No.  
 6 Q. Did you ever talk to anybody from the board of  
 7 directors about Jackee's medical leave?  
 8 A. Medical leave, no.  
 9 Q. Did you ever talk to Blair McGowan about it?  
 10 A. Who?  
 11 Q. Blair McGowan.  
 12 A. About Jackee's medical leave? No. I don't  
 13 remember talking to him about it.  
 14 Q. Did anybody ever ask you any questions about  
 15 Jackee's medical leave?  
 16 A. No. You got to understand, sir, my reputation and  
 17 history is to treat people's medical situations  
 18 confidentiality. I don't go around talking about  
 19 it.  
 20 Q. Okay. Was this meeting between you and Ray and  
 21 Jackee the same meeting where you talked about Ted  
 22 Winiarski?  
 23 A. Yes.  
 24 Q. Okay. Do you know whether or not Jackee went on  
 25 medical leave that day?

Page 136

1 A. I never even questioned it.  
 2 Q. Do you have any knowledge about the paperwork that  
 3 Jackee submitted to HR?  
 4 A. No.  
 5 Q. Okay. Do you know who Temeng Darko is?  
 6 A. What?  
 7 Q. Do you know who Temeng Darko is?  
 8 A. Who?  
 9 Q. Temeng Darko.  
 10 A. Yeah. Yeah.  
 11 Q. Okay.  
 12 A. He's the HR man, isn't he?  
 13 Q. Right.  
 14 A. I think. Yeah. I think. I only met him once, I  
 15 think.  
 16 Q. Okay. Did you ever talk to him about Jackee's  
 17 medical leave?  
 18 A. No.  
 19 Q. Okay. Did you have a second meeting with Jackee  
 20 regarding her medical leave?  
 21 A. What?  
 22 Q. Sorry. Did you have a second meeting with Jackee  
 23 regarding her medical leave?  
 24 A. A second meeting?  
 25 Q. Yeah.

Marcellus Stepp

February 25, 2011

Page 169

Page 171

1 A. Who told her?  
 2 Q. Yeah.  
 3 MS. CAULEY: Objection, lack of  
 4 foundation.  
 5 THE WITNESS: I don't remember.  
 6 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 7 Q. Do you remember if the committee considered  
 8 reducing the salary of other executive staff  
 9 members?  
 10 A. Say that again.  
 11 Q. Yeah. Do you recall if this committee considered  
 12 reducing the salary of other executive staff  
 13 members?  
 14 A. I don't remember.  
 15 MS. CAULEY: You mean other than what  
 16 appears in this document?  
 17 MR. YOUNG: No. I'm just saying in  
 18 general?  
 19 MS. CAULEY: At any point in time, ever,  
 20 or this meeting on March 1st?  
 21 THE WITNESS: You're talking about during  
 22 the same time as reducing the hundred thousand?  
 23 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 24 Q. Yes.  
 25 A. That's what I assume, you're talking about the

1 Q. Let me finish my question, then you can give me  
 2 your answer.  
 3 A. Okay. Go ahead.  
 4 Q. The committee wanted to wait till Jackee got back  
 5 from medical leave before effectuating the change,  
 6 correct?  
 7 A. Yeah. I trust you were saying medical leave, it's  
 8 just sick leave.  
 9 Q. Okay. We'll just call it her leave.  
 10 A. Huh? What?  
 11 Q. We'll just call it her leave. How about that  
 12 that?  
 13 A. What?  
 14 Q. Her leave.  
 15 A. Yeah. Okay.  
 16 Q. Is that -- I'm sorry. Did you answer? Did you  
 17 say yes? I'm sorry. I missed it if you did.  
 18 A. What?  
 19 Q. Did you say yes?  
 20 A. Yes to what?  
 21 MS. CAULEY: What's the answer to the  
 22 question?  
 23 THE WITNESS: What is the question?  
 24 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 25 Q. I'll start over. I'm sorry. Did the committee

Page 170

Page 172

1 same time.  
 2 Q. Yeah.  
 3 A. If you're talking about a different time --  
 4 Q. No. No.  
 5 A. -- you should let the old man know.  
 6 Q. No. You were understanding.  
 7 A. Okay.  
 8 Q. Yep.  
 9 A. I don't know who told Jackee.  
 10 MS. CAULEY: That wasn't the question.  
 11 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 12 Q. No.  
 13 A. Oh.  
 14 Q. The question was did the committee consider  
 15 reducing the salary of other executive staff  
 16 members?  
 17 A. I don't think so. I don't know. I don't  
 18 recall.  
 19 Q. Okay. The committee wanted to wait until Jackee  
 20 returned from her medical leave --  
 21 A. That is correct, that is the point I want to  
 22 make.  
 23 Q. Okay. Let me finish my question and then I'll let  
 24 you --  
 25 A. What's that?

1 want to wait until Jackee returned from her leave  
 2 to effectuate the salary reduction?  
 3 A. The medical leave?  
 4 Q. Yeah.  
 5 A. Yeah.  
 6 Q. Is that a yes?  
 7 A. That's a yes.  
 8 Q. Okay. Thank you.  
 9 A. Yeah. My medical leave is synonymous to sick  
 10 leave. Okay?  
 11 Q. No. I understand.  
 12 A. All right.  
 13 Q. We're trying to make it clear for the record.  
 14 A. Yeah. All right.  
 15 Q. As clear as we can anyway.  
 16 A. Okay.  
 17 Q. Do you know why they wanted to wait until she  
 18 returned from the leave, why it wanted to wait?  
 19 A. My thinking was we didn't want to disturb her  
 20 while she's ill and to give her the impression  
 21 that something's going to happen to her because  
 22 all the benefits stayed in effect, whatever they  
 23 were, at the level of the -- salary level when she  
 24 left, so when she would come back, that's when the  
 25 reduction would kick in and all the related

Marcellus Stepp

February 25, 2011

Page 213

Page 215

1 A. Yeah. That was in 1960 -- 1960.  
 2 Q. Okay.  
 3 A. I was working in the plant at the time and for the  
 4 1961 contract I ran to be elected to that national  
 5 negotiating committee.  
 6 Q. Okay. When did you go to work for Walter  
 7 Reuther?  
 8 A. Came out in 1961.  
 9 Q. Okay.  
 10 A. See, Walter was the president of the CCHA program,  
 11 which is now HAP. HAP, Ford bought it and then  
 12 HAP took it over later.  
 13 Q. Okay. All right. I've almost got the connection  
 14 here. Just before the national negotiation  
 15 committee, where were you at?  
 16 A. Chrysler Highland Park plant.  
 17 Q. Okay. Were you there from 1946 till 1960?  
 18 A. Yes.  
 19 Q. Okay. All right. That's what I was missing.  
 20 A. 1942 to 1960.  
 21 MS. CAULEY: You were in the Army.  
 22 BY MR. YOUNG:  
 23 Q. Right.  
 24 A. I left for three years.  
 25 Q. Right.

Page 214

1 A. To go in the Army, see.  
 2 Q. Right.  
 3 A. Then I came back to the plant.  
 4 Q. Got it. All right. Okay. Was there a written  
 5 policy at Co/Op regarding nepotism, do you know?  
 6 A. I don't think so.  
 7 Q. Okay.  
 8 A. I don't know of any.  
 9 Q. We also talked earlier about -- we were talking  
 10 about Jackee's termination and why you thought --  
 11 why you voted --  
 12 A. Yeah.  
 13 Q. -- for her termination. And you gave me, I think  
 14 you gave me three reasons, but I might have cut  
 15 you off, so I'll just recap.

16 MR. YOUNG: Mary, correct me if I'm wrong.  
 17 BY MR. YOUNG:

18 Q. Number one, OFIR had mentioned that Co/Op should  
 19 be sold or that they should find an investor to  
 20 help them out.  
 21 A. That came from OFIR.  
 22 Q. Yes.  
 23 A. Yeah.  
 24 Q. Number two, you talked about employees making  
 25 complaints?

1 A. Correct.  
 2 Q. Okay. And number three, you had mentioned Ken  
 3 Ross had made some comments to you about the  
 4 management of the company?  
 5 A. Correct.  
 6 Q. Okay. Did you have any other reasons that you  
 7 voted for Jackee's termination?  
 8 A. I just thought with the morale being a negative  
 9 factor and I didn't think she could restore it  
 10 because it had gotten so deep and I don't mind  
 11 telling you those seven employees really effected  
 12 me when they very boldly registered their  
 13 displeasure with her. The question would then  
 14 come how could she lead them if they feel this  
 15 strongly about it.  
 16 Q. Okay. What kind of employees were they, do you  
 17 remember?  
 18 A. What?  
 19 Q. Were these executive level employees or --  
 20 A. No.  
 21 Q. Was it a mixed bag?  
 22 A. Well, let's see. One -- wait just a minute. You  
 23 said executive level. I think maybe one or two of  
 24 them were.  
 25 Q. Okay.

Page 216

1 A. Yeah.  
 2 Q. And then others weren't is what you're saying?  
 3 A. What?  
 4 Q. Others were not? You said two were and then the  
 5 rest of them were not?  
 6 A. Yes. I wouldn't --  
 7 Q. Okay.  
 8 A. -- say that they were top executives. They may  
 9 have been in the nonunion staff, but --  
 10 Q. Okay. Going back to morale --  
 11 A. What?  
 12 Q. Going back to morale. I'm sorry.  
 13 A. The morale?  
 14 Q. Yeah.  
 15 A. Yeah.  
 16 Q. Was it -- did you blame --  
 17 A. The reports we got on that was very, very low.  
 18 Q. Okay. Did you blame that solely on Jackee?  
 19 A. Not solely, but she is a major contributor.  
 20 Q. Okay. Who else was a contributor that you know  
 21 of?  
 22 A. I can't think of any offhand.  
 23 Q. Okay. But you think there were others?  
 24 A. What?  
 25 Q. You think there were others?

54 (Pages 213 to 216)